

NEWSLETTER

JESUIT CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FARM STREET

Parish Prayer List

We pray for those in the parish who are sick: Carmine di Cesare, Marie Carroll Copestake, Michael Gill, Chris Hicks, Danny Rutilio, and Alan Stewart.

The LORD sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness you restore him to full health.

Psalms 41:3

Metamorphosis Icon Talk

Dr Irina Bradley will be giving a lecture in the church on **Monday 7th of February** at 6.45pm. The title of the lecture is, 'Symbolism of Colour in Icon Painting'. To buy tickets via Eventbrite, visit the Eventbrite website and type in the lecture title into 'search events'.

This talk corresponds to 'Metamorphosis', an icon exhibition by Dr Irina Bradley, currently situated in the Art Corridor at 114 Mount Street. The exhibition is open at the following times:

Saturdays – 11am to 8pm

Sundays – 11am to 8pm

Weekdays – 8am to 8pm

The exhibition is absolutely beautiful and is sure to lift the hearts of anyone who views it. The exhibition will end on **Wednesday 9th February**.

Tim Hetherington Film Club at Farm Street

Next showing: **Arrupe Hall 6.30pm for 7.00pm on Tuesday 22 February**

Cost: free refreshments (donations welcome)

Presenting: **'The Exorcist'** (1972) 2hr 12min

Join us to celebrate 50 years since this Jesuit-related classic was released!

When a 12-year-old girl is possessed by a mysterious entity, her mother seeks the help of two Jesuit priests to try to save her. It is now fifty years since the novel followed by the film came out. The cultural conversation around this supernatural horror film encompassing its treatment of Catholicism helped it to become the first such film to be nominated for an Oscar.

Nominated for ten awards, the film won best Adapted Screenplay and Best Sound. Film critic, Mark Kermode, named 'The Exorcist' as his 'favourite film of all time'; do join us to make up your own mind but prepare to be shocked!

For more information email David at dthurst52@gmail.com

SVP Volunteers

The St Vincent de Paul Society organises a soup run in the local area every Monday night for the homeless.

They need more volunteers to help with the soup run, starting at 7:30pm from Farm Street Church. If you might be able to help, please contact Yasko Kurahachi on y.kurahachi@gmail.com

Paulist Pilgrimages

Ignatius in Rome

June 26-July 2, 2022

You are invited to join

Frs. Julio Giulietti SJ and Thomas A. Kane, CSP on a seven-day Ignatian pilgrimage into the heart of St. Ignatius Loyola in Rome. We invite our pilgrims to engage fully in the Spiritual Exercises to deepen their relationship with Christ. Retreat conferences will focus on the spirituality of St. Ignatius and Jesuit history.

for Itinerary and information
check www.paulistpilgrimages.org

London Catholic History Walks

www.catholichistorywalks.com

Monday Feb 7th meet 6pm Corpus Christi Church Maiden Lane London WC2E 2NB.

We'll explore The Strand, and Covent Garden and head towards Smithfield and St Paul's Cathedral.

Wednesday February 16th meet 6pm at The Monument Fish Street Hill London EC2R 8AH. Nearest tube: MONUMENT London We'll learn about the Great Fire and walk along the river to the Tower of London.

Friday February 18th meet 3pm (note time) steps of St Paul's Cathedral EC4M 8AD. We'll walk to Smithfield and then down Fleet Street to St Bride's church, with its crypt telling the story of Roman and Saxon London.

Sunday February 20th Meet 3pm main gate, St Mary's University, Twickenham TW1 4SX. Nearest tube: Strawberry Hill. We'll discover the story of St Mary's and walk along the river to Richmond.

The walks are led by Joanna Bogle, historian and author. No need to book, just turn up! We suggest a donation of £5.00p. Children should be accompanied by an adult with responsibility for them. Each Walk lasts 1-2 hours, but of course people can leave at any time. Wear suitable clothing and shoes – we walk whatever the weather! We are happy to organise specific walks for groups or schools. Contact us on catholichistorywalks@gmail.com



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
6th February 2022

PARISH CLERGY

Fr Dominic Robinson SJ, Parish Priest

Fr Nicholas King SJ; Fr Michael Holman SJ

REGULARLY ASSISTING CLERGY

Fr Damian Howard SJ; Fr Paul Nicholson SJ

Fr Laco Sulik SJ; Fr Michael Bossy SJ

PARISH STAFF

George McCombe, Parish Secretary

Email: farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk

Patricia Morgan, Finance Officer

Email: farmstreetfin@rcdow.org.uk

David Graham, Director of Music

Email: farmstreetmusic@gmail.com

Leninha Assis, Catechist

Email: farmstcatechist@rcdow.org.uk

Kevin De Souza, Sacristan

Email: farmstreetsacristan@rcdow.org.uk

Sebastian Cichocki, Maintenance

Email: scichocki@jesuit.org.uk

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Steven Fachada,

Email: farmstreetppcchair@rcdow.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING OFFICE

Debbie Martin,

Email: farmstreetsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Parish Office

ADDRESS: 114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH

TELEPHONE: 020 7493 7811

E-MAIL: farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk

WEBSITE: www.farmstreet.org.uk

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday to Friday: 8am, 1.05pm, & 6pm

Saturday: 8am & 6pm

Sunday: 8am, 9.30am (Family), 11am (Latin),
12.30pm, 5.30pm, & 7pm (Young Adult, 18-35)

All Masses can be viewed on our livestreaming page <https://www.farmstreet.org.uk/livestream>

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT

Monday to Friday: 12 noon to 1pm

CONFESSIONS

Monday to Friday: 12 noon - 1pm

Saturday: 10am to 12 noon; 5.45pm – 6pm

Sunday: Fifteen minutes before every Mass
Also by appointment

BAPTISM AND WEDDINGS

By appointment.

CHURCH OPENING HOURS

Monday to Saturday: 7.30am - 6.30pm

Sunday: 7.30am – 7.00pm

YEAR C

ENTRY

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God

RESPONSE

Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord.

ACCLAMATION

I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my father.

COMMUNION

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.



LIGHT SHINING IN DARKNESS

One of the roles that I perform is to act as a very part time Catholic chaplain to the students at Imperial College in Kensington. We have mass each Wednesday lunchtime, presently at the Oratory church in Knightsbridge because the chaplaincy room in the College, where we used to gather, is too small for us given the university's social distancing regulations.

This past Wednesday, we celebrated together the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, a festival of light at one of the darkest times of the year. What is the significance of this feast day in our lives of faith? Two themes came to mind.

The Gospel reading for the feast, in the second chapter of St Luke, introduces us to two people, Simeon and Anna. They are presented as people who waited patiently for the fulfilment of their hopes and desires for the coming of the Messiah. As such, they are symbols of the people of Israel who longed and waited, not always so patiently, for the fulfilment of their hopes of which the prophets had assured them.

The Feast of the Presentation reminds us of the significance of our own waiting for the fulfilment of our hopes and desires. Each one of us, I am sure, gives time for prayer, personal prayer. Sometimes that prayer can be rich. We may feel the presence of the Lord with us. We may find our minds are flooded with thoughts and ideas so rich that they come back to us again and again.

Sometimes our prayer, however, can seem dry. However carefully we prepare, it's as if nothing happens and we might get restless, look at our clock and ask ourselves, "How much longer must I endure this?"

Our response to this dryness may be to look for other ways of praying: to try this or that form of prayer. But it may be better simply to stay with our desires. We can sit silently, perhaps repeating slowly a few words from the psalms, like "O God you are my God for you I long", or we can talk to the Lord about our longings and remember that his presence would indeed be the fulfilment of our deepest desires.

In fact, it's at times like this that our relationship with the Lord is deepened: it becomes stronger and more personal. At such times we can think of Simeon and Anna and ask for their support. Knowing that as with them so with us: our fulfilment will come and, because of our longing and desiring, there will be more space in our lives to receive him.

The second theme that came to mind last Wednesday was entirely different. A friend had texted me early in the day to remind me that the 2 February was the anniversary of the execution of Fr Alfred Delp. He was a young Jesuit priest who in 1945 was sentenced to death by the Nazis and one of the bravest men I know. From his pulpit in a Jesuit church in Munich he condemned Nazi regime and its policy of enforced euthanasia for those with special needs. He was also a member of the intellectual circle which met together in secret to discuss the future of Germany after the fall of Hitler. Not surprisingly, he was arrested and put through a show trial and of course he was found guilty. It was in prison that he wrote letters to his friends, that he celebrated his last mass, and professed his final vows as a Jesuit, as it was said, with tears running down his face.

I was reminded of him on Feast of the Presentation because on that day, "Candlemas", we recognise the coming of the Messiah as a light shining in deepest darkness, and I hope that one day his holiness will be recognised by the Church and he will be declared Blessed.

This Sunday, 6 February, we will mark the seventieth anniversary of the accession to the throne of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. There is so much that for which we can be grateful, not least for her dedication to the people of this country and the Commonwealth over so many years and her shining example of Christian faith.

We may well remember her broadcast two years ago, in April 2020, at the beginning of the pandemic, and the great encouragement she gave. She concluded her address with these words, "We should take comfort that while we may have more still to endure, better days will return. We will be with our friends again. We will be with our families again. We will meet again. But for now, I send my thanks and warmest good wishes to you all". For many during these past two years, the Queen has been a light shining in darkness and for that and much more, we can give God thanks.

Fr Michael Holman SJ

Mass intention

If you would like a Mass to be celebrated for a specific intention, please contact the Parish Secretary at farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk

Liturgical Calendar

Sun: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mon: Feria
Tue: Feria; St Jerome Emiliani; St Josephine Bakhita
Wed: Feria
Thu: St Scholastica, Virgin
Fri: Feria; Our Lady of Lourdes
Sat: Feria; Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday
Sun: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Daily Bible Readings

Sun: Isaiah 6:1-8; I Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11
Mon: I Kings 8:1-13; Mark 6:53-56
Tue: I Kings 8:22-30; Mark 7:1-13
Wed: I Kings 10:1-10; Mark 7:14-23
Thu: I Kings 11:4-13; Mark 7:24-30
Fri: I Kings 11:29-12:19; Mark 7:31-37
Sat: I Kings 12:26-13:34; Mark 8:1-10
Sun: Jeremiah 17:5-8; I Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26

Sunday Refreshments

We are happy to say that refreshments have now resumed in the Arrupe Hall after the 9.30am, 11am, and 5.30pm Sunday Masses (second and fourth Sunday only for 5.30pm). All are welcome to join us for a cup of tea or coffee and fellowship.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2022

The next First Reconciliation and Holy Communion Programme, for children who are on year three begins on **27th of February 2022 from 10:30 - 11:30am**
The Celebration day :**16th October 2022.**
To register, please contact us:
farmstcatechist@rcdow.org.uk

CONFIRMATIONS 2022

The programme for the Sacrament of Confirmation (teens age 14+), begins on the **16th of March 2022, from 10:30 - 11:30 am.**
The celebration day: 3rd July 2022
To register, please contact us:
farmstcatechist@rcdow.org.uk

The Pope's Monthly Prayer Intention

In the month of February 2022, we pray for religious sisters and consecrated women. We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new response to the challenges of our times.

White Flower Appeal 2022

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal this weekend. SPUC is currently campaigning to protect Pro-Life Speech. Pro-life witness is being restricted now more than ever; we must be able to speak freely to protect unborn babies. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC protect unborn babies and their mothers from this new attack.

A Day with Mary

When: Saturday 19th February 2022
Where: Holy Apostles, Winchester Street, SW1V

10:00am Entry procession of Our Lady. Angelus. Crowning. Sung Litany. Mass in honour of Our Lady. Celebrant & Preacher: Canon Pat Browne. The Five Joyful Mysteries.

12.15pm Lunch break *Please bring a packed lunch*

1.15pm Exposition and Procession of the Blessed Sacrament. The Five Luminous Mysteries. Sermon on Our Lady by Fr Pius Collins. The Five Sorrowful Mysteries. Meditation on the Passion.

3.30pm Tea break

4.15pm Sermon on Our Lady by Fr Charles Soyombo. The Five Glorious Mysteries. Act of Consecration. Benediction. Enrolments in the Brown Scapular and Miraculous Medal.

Finish for **5.30pm**

Throughout the day: Confession and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

London Jesuit Centre

The London Jesuit Centre is a place for the teaching and discussion of theology, the study and practice of the spiritual life, and engagement with issues of social and environmental justice, for the greater glory of God and the common good. It offers a programme of events, courses, and retreats. It is also a centre for individual spiritual direction and training and professional development in spiritual accompaniment. All are welcome to participate in the London Jesuit Centre programme. For more information and to sign up to their mailing list for regular updates on events, please visit <https://londonjesuitcentre.org/>. For more information, contact Anne Paolino at apaolino@jesuit.org.uk.